

41. A method for preparing an antibody according to claim 39, wherein the antibody is elicited by immunizing with a RANKL polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

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- a) a polypeptide comprising amino acids 1-294 of SEQ ID NO:11;
 - b) a polypeptide comprising amino acids 139-294 of SEQ ID NO:11;
 - c) a polypeptide comprising amino acids 1-139 of SEQ ID NO:11;
 - d) a polypeptide comprising amino acids 119-294 of SEQ ID NO:11;
 - e) a polypeptide comprising amino acids x to y of SEQ ID NO:11, wherein x is an amino terminal amino acid between 48 and 139 of SEQ ID NO:11, and y is a carboxy terminal amino acid between 290 and 294 of SEQ ID NO:11; and
 - f) a polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid molecule that is capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to a DNA having a nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:10 or its complement, wherein stringent conditions comprise hybridizing in 6 X SSC at 63°C and washing in 3 X SSC at 55°C.--

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 have been cancelled from the application, and new claims 36-41 have been added by amendment as indicated above. The title of the application has been amended to more accurately reflect the invention described herein. In addition, the paragraph describing priority has been amended, and Figures 4 and 5 and their corresponding descriptions have been cancelled from the application. These figures are being cancelled because they are not discussed in the specification.

New claims 36-41 relate to antibodies against marine and human RANKL, including a method of making such antibodies. These claims correspond in essence to cancelled claims 31 and 32, thus are supported by the description in these cancelled claims. Support for new claims 36-41 is found throughout the specification, for example, at page 4, lines 16-20; page 4, line 31 to page 5, line 34; page 10, lines 30-36; page 12, lines 5-7; page 18, lines 2-3; Examples 7 and 8, at pages 25-27; Example 10, at pages 27-28; and Example 15, at pages 33-34. Accordingly, these new claims are fully supported in the application and do not constitute the addition of new matter.

CONCLUSION

The Examiner is respectfully asked to consider the patentability of claims 36-41. If the Examiner has any questions, she is requested to contact the undersigned at her direct dial number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



Diana K. Sheiness, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 35,356
(206) 470-4818

Immunex Corporation
Law Department
51 University Street
Seattle, WA 98101

006593-0304
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APPENDIX TO PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
(marked-up version of section of specification amended in Preliminary Amendment)

TITLE

ANTIBODIES AGAINST LIGAND FOR RECEPTOR ACTIVATOR OF NF- κ B

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a [continuation-in-part] divisional of USSN 09/577,780, filed May 24, 2000, which is a divisional of USSN 08/995,659, filed December 22, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,242,213, which claims the benefit of USSN 60/064,671, filed October 14, 1997, [and a continuation-in-part of] USSN 60/077,181, filed March 7, 1997 (filed originally as USSN 08/813,509), [filed March 7, 1997] and [a continuation-in-part of] USSN 60/059,978, filed December 23, 1996 (filed originally as USSN 08/772,330).

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